Financial crisis in Tulip Star Hotel

1911. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the hotel Tulip Star (erstwhile Juhu Centaur) is going through a severe financial crises and the employees are not getting salaries on time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose to take to protect the interest of the employees of this divested hotel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Being aggrieved by the actions of the management of Hotel Tulip Star, the Officers Association and also certain unionized category employee of the hotel had filed Writ Petitions before the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay. The Writ Petitions came up for hearing on 12.08.2004, wherein the advocate of M/s Tulip Hospitality Services Limited tendered an affidavit to clear the dues on or before 31.12.2004. The Hon'ble High Court had taken the above affidavit on record, and adjourned the matter which is subjudice at present. Moreover, Air India have also been asked to constitute a fact finding Committee and send its report to the Ministry. Further action would be taken by the Government on receipt of this report.

Development of Non-Metro Airports

1912. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to develop 22 Non-metro Airports and introduce attendant service called "Swagat Seva" to boost tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with financial allocation made for the purpose and the targeted date for operationalising the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There is a plan for airside and city side development of 25 Non-metro airports contingent upon the outcome of the Techno-Economic Feasibility Study (TEFS) by Indian Financial Consultant (IFC) and Global Technical Advisor

(GTA) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has a proposal to introduce Swagat Seva service at selected airports.

(b) In the first phase, 10 airports have been identified and Indian Financial Consultant (IFC) and Global Technical Advisor (GTA) have been appointed to conduct the TEFS.

These Consultants will *inter-alia* indicate development plans of the airport, and business and financial plan/model specific to each airport for adoption by AAI. In the second phase 15 Non-metro airports are being taken up for TEFS.

Expressions of Interest (EOI) for appointment of Consultants have been issued for 15 airports in Phase-II. The last date of receipt of EOI is 24 January, 2005.

Expansion of smaller Airports

†1913 SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of small airports in the country and how many of these are connected with regular flights;

(b) whether some State Governments have submitted a proposal for expansion of these airports and connecting them with regular flights;

(c) if so, whether the State Government of Uttaranchal has also submitted any such proposal;

(d) if so, whether there is a proposal to expand Gouchar Chinyalsourh and Pithauragarh airstrips in Uttaranchal and also to connect them with regular flights; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There are 58 small airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) in the country. Of these, 26 airports are operational. Scheduled flights are operating at 11 airports only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.